and Petrochemicals fixes or revises prices of Scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). The NPPA has fixed/revised the prices of Scheduled formulation in respect of 441 packs during the period January, 2006 to October, 2006 and 32 formulations packs during the period 1st November, 2006 to 31st December, 2006. The prices have been increased in respect of 140 formulation packs during the period January, 06 to October, 06 and in respect of 14 formulation packs during the period 1st November, 06 to 31st December, 06. Percentage wise increase in 154 cases is summarized as under:—

Percentage(%) Increase	No. of packs		
	Jan, 06 to Oct, 06	Nov, 06 to Dec, 06	Total
Upto 10%	103	8	111
Above 10%	37	6	43
TOTAL:	140	14	154

In respect of drugs, not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-Scheduled formulations, manufacturers are free to fix the prices by themselves without seeking approval of Government/NPPA. As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-Scheduled formulations. The details of percentage number of packs whose prices have increased on the monthly basis in percentage terms as per Retail audit Reports of ORG-IMS Research Pvt. Ltd for the year 2006 as follows:

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2006	1.36	1.17	1.76	0.15	0.55	0.31	0.66	0.27	0.34	0.66	-	0.37

PCPIRs in Gujarat

1995. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Central Government has appointed M/s Dalal Mott McDonald as a Consultant for shortlisting the location for setting up Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region/ Mega Chemical Industrial Estate;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Dahej in Gujarat has been selected as one of the most important sites; and

(c) if so, what is the time frame in which PCPIR would be set up at Dahej?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals had initiated action for preparing a feasibility Report on setting up of Mega Chemical Industrial Estates (MCIE) in the country. The said concept has been subsumed by the policy of Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) to enable quick and coordinated decision making and to provide an appropriate policy framework for the development of investment regions of requisite scale and level of facilities, with the involvement of world class developers and investors, in the field of petroleum, chemicals and petrochemicals. The policy which has been approved by the Cabinet is to be notified. The Central Government will consider and approve applications from the State Governments for establishment of PCPIRs in terms of this policy. No time frame can be indicated at this stage.

Prices of medicines

†1996. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been sent to drugs manufacturing companies by Government for giving such medicines at half prices which are being given under the public health system;

(b) if so, the details of the said proposal; and

(c) whether the drugs manufacturing companies have given their consent on this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) In the draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006, it has, *inter-alia*, been proposed that for drugs other than those under cost based price control a ceiling price of upto 50% of MRP of the drug would be applied, for the purchase made in bulk by Central Government or States for public health requirments

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.